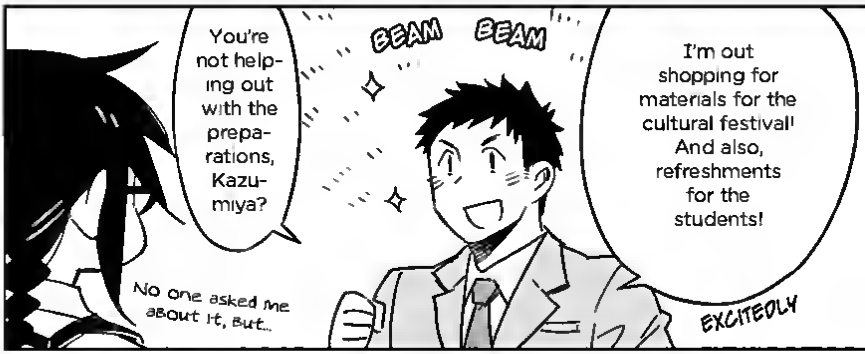
「Omaera Zenin Mendokusai!」

#24: Speaking as A...

TOBI

■The season: Autumn. The cultural festival is coming up.
Excuse me, I'm from Shirahane High School.
Would it be all right if we put up a poster for our cultural festival?
Ah, go right ahead Good luck!
Oh? Kazumiya.
FRE
EZE
.....

What are you doing here...?
Yeah...
What a coincidence
You on your way home?


You're not helping out with the preparations, Kazumiya?
No one asked me about it, but...
BEAM BEAM
I'm out shopping for materials for the cultural festival! And also, refreshments for the students!
EXCITEDLY

2

Well... Yeah, it is, but...
Participation in the cultural festival is optional, right?
No, I'm... not interested.

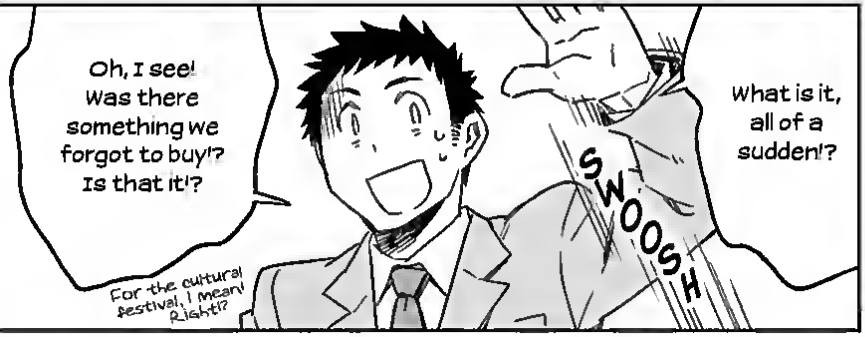
This is a great idea!
Oh, I know!
How about you come along and give me a hand with the shopping?

Okay then, let's go!

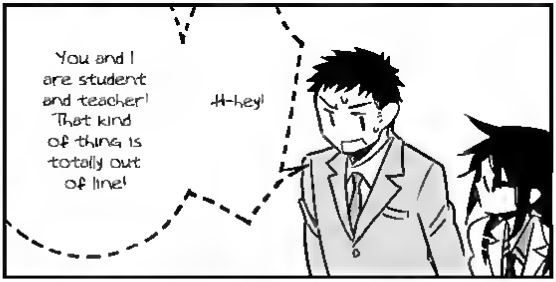
Yes!
Well— I guess I could—

Anyway, when it comes to you students,
I'd really like it if everyone participated in every school event, even if just in some small way.
Your first year is the best time for it, after all...
And in your case, Kazumiya, I'd like nothing more than to see you become more self-assured.
Grr..
make some friends and..
4
!?
GRAB
4

McDonald's
4F
!!

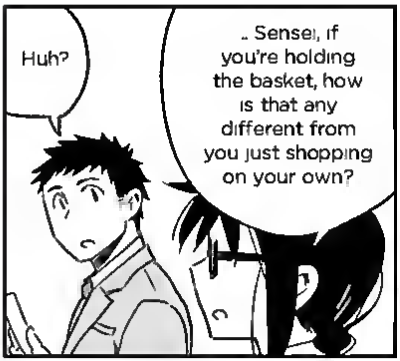

Oh, I see! Was there something we forgot to buy!? Is that it!?
For the cultural festival, I mean! Right!?
SWOOSH
What is it, all of a sudden!?

Good grief..

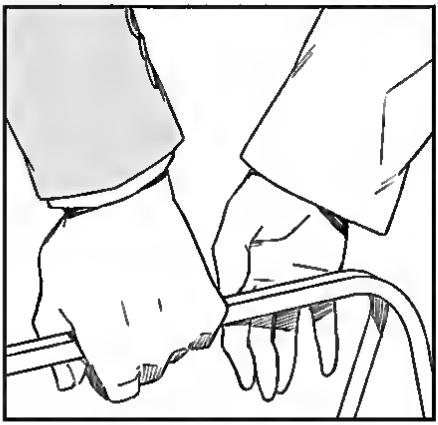

You and I are student and teacher! That kind of thing is totally out of line!
H-hey!

Yes, sir~

TOKYO HANDS


Huh?
.. Sensei, if you're holding the basket, how is that any different from you just shopping on your own?

We need to get packaging tape, fabric adhesive, permanent markers...
Let's see here..



Here, let me hold it

ALL RIGHT THEN, I'LL LEAVE IT TO YOU!
RETREAT

So?
Huh?
Damn, I backed away reflexively, but now it just looks like I'm letting her get to me. What the hell am I doing?
That's not how I meant to come off! I just don't want the people around us getting any strange ideas...
What are we buy-ing?
Give me the list.
7
Oh
H-here you go
T-that makes sense
.....
I think I get the picture.
7

Sensei
Okay?
Okay, let's go

Ah,
Oh, I was just thinking...
I should be ashamed of myself for acting so self conscious earlier...
What is it?
This is definitely more efficient than if I had come by myself...
I guess I should be grateful.

Ah, yeah, it seems like they sell everything here..
It's pretty fun, even if you come alone.
Well, yeah.
Do you come here often?
You seem pretty familiar with where they keep stuff here, Kazumiya

Ah

I've got 3 of them.
For real!?
Speaking of which, I bought this lab coat here, too
O-... oh?.

Eh?
No, that's fine. I said I'd carry it, so...
That looks kind of heavy. Maybe you should let me carry it after all.
No, a grown man should never make a girl carry his things
Come on
Sensei, um...
A "girl"...

If you're trying to show off or something,
I think it'd be better if you didn't.
It's not making you look good at all.

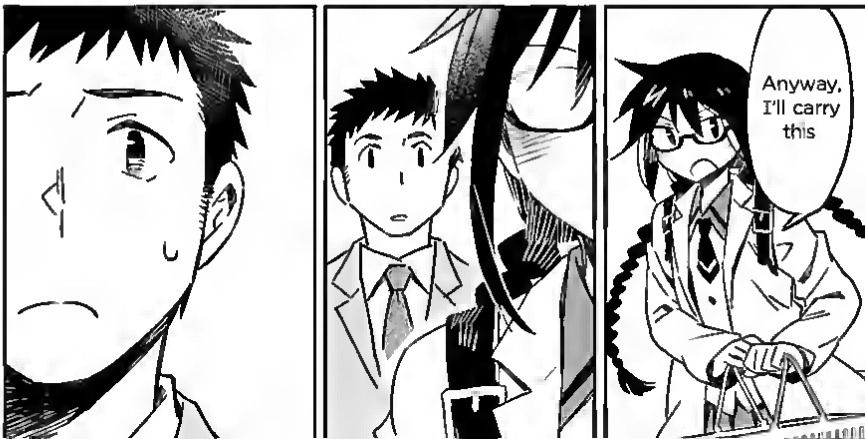
By saying stuff like "as a teacher" or "as a grown man."

Huh?..
Was I.. showing off?
Ah.. You mean... by offering to carry things for you?

The way you never say what you think "as you yourself"
seems really calculated and unfair, to me.

... A girl could get the wrong idea from you acting too nice,
so please, just don't.

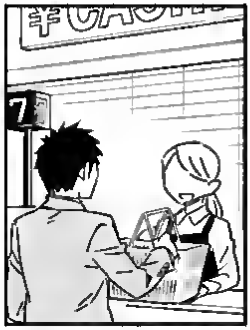
Umm...
Huh?..
I'm... I'm sorry?


Anyway, I'll carry this

Ahh!
I'm not mad, okay?
Don't be mad... I already apologized, just let me carry it.
13
Oh... Um... Hibiki-chan!?
You grew out your hair!
Kunihiko-sensei, good afternoon!
Y-yes it is! I came here to buy some things for my school's cultural festival...
What a coincidence!
Ohh!
Us too!
13

N-no problem!
Sorry, I need to go check out real quick, okay?
Hey, wait! I'm the one paying, and I need to get the receipt...
.. I'm going to go check out.

.....



It's been a while since we met.
Kazumiya -senpai, right?
Umm...
Uh...

Yeah?

What is your class doing... for the cultural festival?
Beats me. I'm not really interested.
Ah. W-we're doing a haunted house in my class
Ohh?
JUMP
Ah! Um, umm, um..
Umm.. Oh, I know!
Kunihiko-sensei is an amazing teacher, isn't he?
.....

I'm envious of those of you in his class
If I had a teacher like that I'm sure he'd make every day fun-
That's why- I was thinking I might want to take Shirahane High School's entrance exam

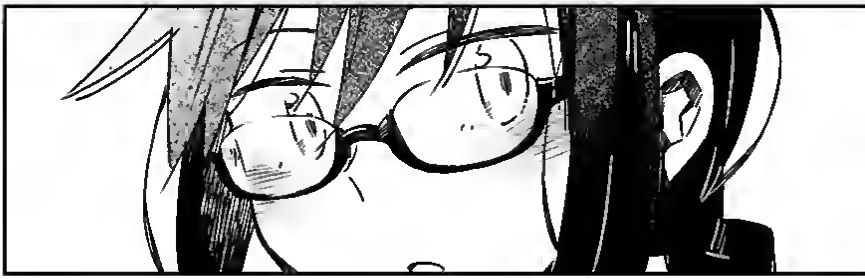
... That's a pretty devious "Reason for Enrollment."
If Kunihko-sensei wasn't there, you wouldn't be interested?
... Which means,

That's not what I meant to-
S-Sorry...

.....
H-hey, it's... not like I care if your reasons are selfish.
Even if they are... I think it's probably still a good thing.
.....

Kunihiko-sensei is nice to everyone.
... But, just so you know...
it's just that he doesn't know any other way to act.
He doesn't act that way because he especially likes you or anything.
.. Huh?
17
Speak-ing for myself...
.....
I think it's only going to lead to disappoint-ment.
if you got the wrong impres-sion of him,
So,

I was actually saved by that all-encompassing smile of his.
If anything, it just makes me think he's even more amazing.

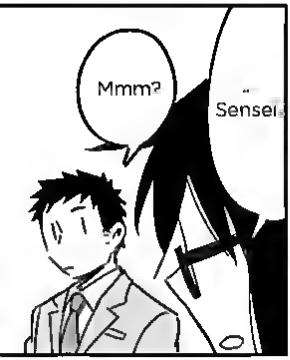


.....

That's fine, then
O-oh, yeah?

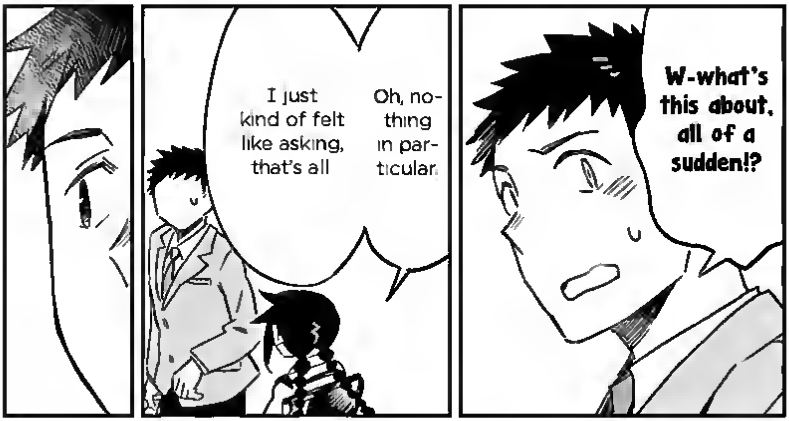
O-
eh?...
Took you long enough!
W-welcome back!
Thanks for waiting!
I'm back!

FONTAINE
ADEBANS
カラオケ
BIOECHO


Mmm?
Sensei..

And she said she'd come see our cultural festival, so we'd better do our best, too
Man.. Hibiki-chan's really doing her best, isn't she?

PFFFT!
Do you think I'm a pain in the ass?


W-what's this about, all of a sudden!?
Oh, nothing in particular.
I just kind of felt like asking, that's all

To say "not at all"...
wouldn't be entirely truthful,
but-
Speaking as a homeroom teacher.. you're the kind of student I don't mind having?
That's what I would say.
.....

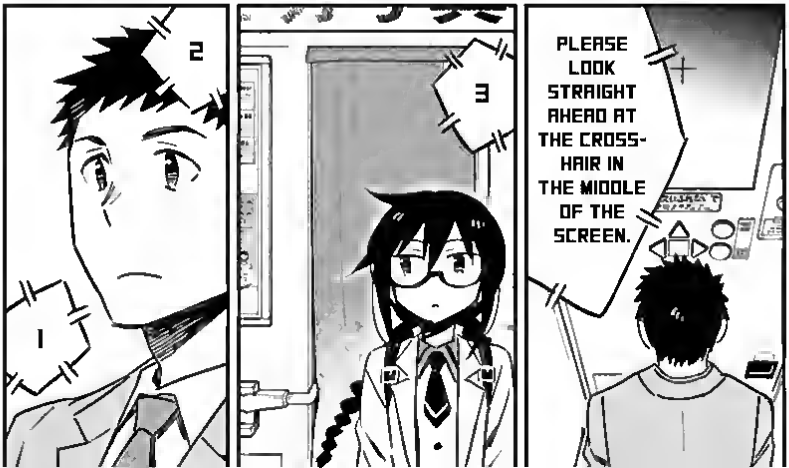
W-well, speaking for myself, personally...
I don't dislike you... I guess?...
.....

... Ah! Hold on, hold on!
Only in the sense that you're not a pain in the ass! Okay!? That's all!
.....
... Huh?

The only reason I even need a new one in the first place is because I gave my old one to you!
Why so condescending!?
I-if you have to... Just make it quick, okay?
Mind waiting while I go in?
Aa-aah! An ID photo! Look, it's the perfect opportunity to get a new one taken!

No way!
And then give the photo to me, please
You should make a funny face
And stop peeking!

PLEASE PRESS THE SHUTTER BUTTON.
Aah, did I screw up earlier? What was the right thing to say!?


1
2
3
PLEASE LOOK STRAIGHT AHEAD AT THE CROSS-HAIR IN THE MIDDLE OF THE SCREEN.

SN
AP

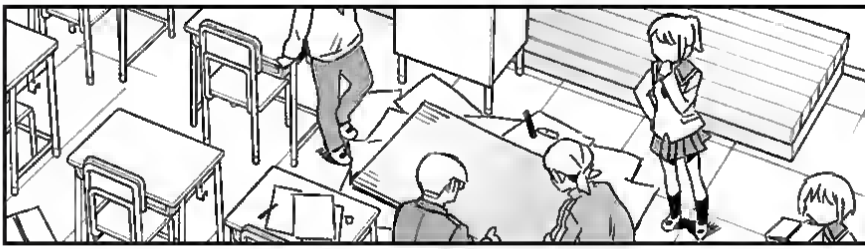
What! Why did you just come in!?
Oh, no reason... I just thought it'd be funny.
Well it wasn't!
Now I have to take it again!

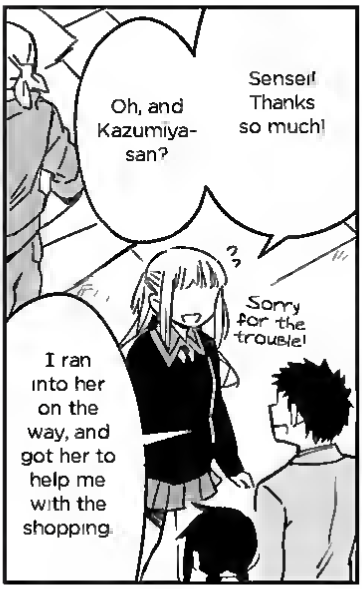
Hey, what can you do?
I'll go ahead and take these off your hands.
Oh, whatever! I'll come again later by myself!
And in the end, you managed to sneak your way into all of them!?

Since you're so handsome
I'd say they came out really well, Sensei.

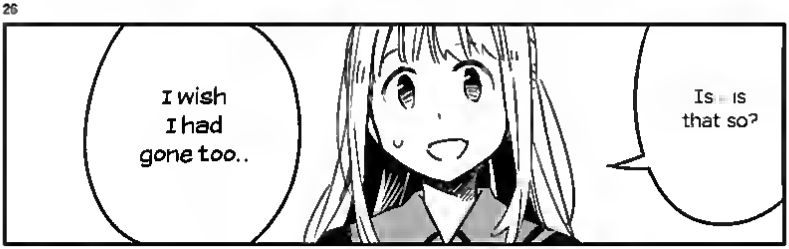
Too easy.
Hehheh
I don't know about "handsome", but..
Y-you think so?

Seriously, I want my ¥700 back...
Nothing, nothing.
Aah!
What'd you just say!?

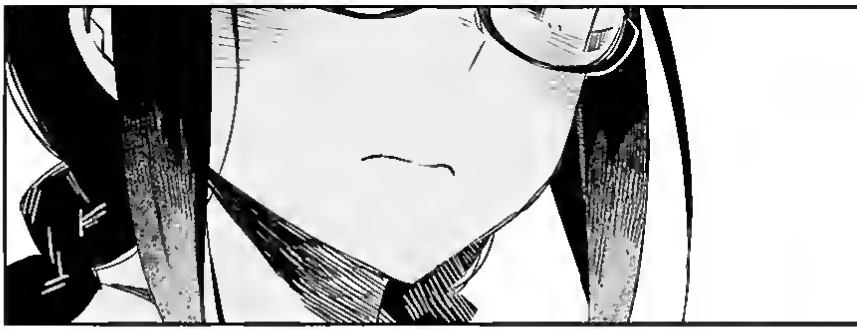


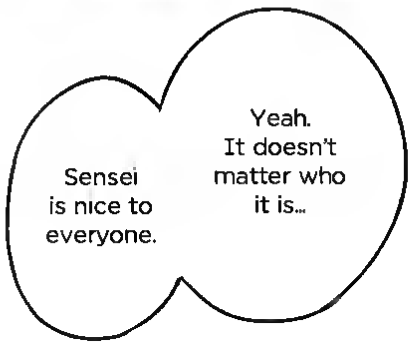

Oh, and Kazumiya-san?
Sensei! Thanks so much!
Sorry for the trouble!
I ran into her on the way, and got her to help me with the shopping.

I'm ba~ck! Is everyone still working hard?


I wish I had gone too..
Is [illegible]s that so?

Don't... don't put words in my mouth, please!
...Is what I bet you're thinking.
...Eh? N-no, that's fine...
Sorry
It was just a joke.
Sensei!♥ I finished making adjustments on the costumes.
Take a look!
YAY!
Yo~, I brought drinks for everyone!
Paper cups to drink from, too
Kazumiya-san just gave me an apology!





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Omaera Zenin Mendokusai!
Chapter 24

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